

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A studless tire having a tread comprising diene rubber and short glass fiber which is surface-treated in advance by a surface treating agent comprising sulfur containing mercaptosilane and dispersed in said diene rubber so as to be oriented in the tread thickness direction,

wherein when measured at 25°C, said tread has a ratio of complex elastic modulus E1 in the tread thickness direction and complex elastic modulus E2 in the tire circumferential direction of

$$1.1 \leq E1/E2 \leq 4$$

and a tread rubber hardness measured at -10°C of 45 to 75 degrees.

Claims 2 - 8 (Cancelled)

9. (Previously presented) The studless tire of Claim 1, wherein said short glass fiber has an average fiber diameter of 3 to 50 μm and average length of 0.1 to 3 mm.

Claims 10 - 11 (Cancelled)

12. (Previously presented) The studless tire of claim 1 wherein said short glass fiber has an average fiber diameter of 1 to 100 μm and an average length of 0.1 to 5 mm.

13. (New) A studless tire having a tread which exhibits an enhanced balance in the braking properties on ice and abrasion resistance which comprises a diene rubber and short glass fiber which is surface-treated in advance by a surface treating agent comprising sulfur containing

mercaptosilane and dispersed in said diene rubber so as to be oriented in the tread thickness direction,

wherein when measured at 25°C, said tread has a ratio of complex elastic modulus E1 in the tread thickness direction and complex elastic modulus E2 in the tire circumferential direction of

$$1.1 \leq E1/E2 \leq 4$$

and a tread rubber hardness measured at -10°C of 45 to 75 degrees.

§